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Roosevelt And Destiny

A remarkable tribute to Theodore Roosevelt is seen in the persistency with which it is repeated that he will surely be the nominee of his party for President for another term. No amount of denials on his part seem sufficient to give a quietus to those who insist that he is to be the man of destiny who shall break the traditional opposition to a third term, and so tremendous in his strength with the American people that it appears that only his own firm attitude in the matter lies in the way of his doing so. He has, however, only recently repeated his declaration that he will not accept a third term, using such language as seems to imply that his intention covers all the future,—not only will he not accept a nomination next time, but he refused to be considered even in the future. Roosevelt is a comparatively young man, and an interval of three or four terms might find him still living and available. Would he still feel himself barred? Present utterances indicate that he would, but no man can say what he would do in such a matter so far ahead.

One of the most remarkable results of the Roosevelt administration is the apparent collapse of the opposition. To an extent he is conquering the Democratic party, not by defeats, but by absorption of the issues it would like to use against him. This has gone on to such an extent that in some high quarters the statement has been made that there is no longer any real opposition party in the United States. Bryan has only recently voiced his approval of the President and even Hearst, with his trust issue snatched away from him by the Roosevelt policy, has of late shown a significant tendency to pat the president on the back. Of course this is all between campaigns, and it is a long way from justifying such a statement that Democracy is dead and that there is no longer an opposition party in the United States. But everyone remembers the difficulty of the Democracy in finding a real issue last time. It is not surprising, therefore, to find leaders who recall the tremendous growth of the Socialist vote and say that the next real national conflict will be not with the Democratic party against the Republican, but with a large part of both against the Socialists.

The Advertiser And The Facts

The Advertiser should make an effort to agree with itself. Its issue of this morning contains the following: "So far as the county campaign is concerned the Home Rulers are as much out of it as the Prohibitionists. There are hardly enough left of them to be detected by the sense of smell."

"Indeed, the listlessness that has settled down upon the Republican campaign in Oahu County is giving the leaders not a little uneasiness. * * * So strong is this discontent, that there is growing a feeling that the Fifth District is in the gravest danger of swinging squarely around into the Home Rule column."

The intent of the Advertiser's editorial efforts, thoroughly discredited by the reports of its own news columns as to what is actually taking place, is apparently to show that there is only one party,—the Republican,—with any chance in the election, thus justifying a hope that an independent ticket, or part of a ticket, that may enter the field, will have a chance of victory. Republicans who have measured strength with their Home Rule enemy and with their Democratic enemy would probably like to think that both combined were no longer an element to be considered at all. But there has been nothing yet to indicate that the Home Rulers have lost any ground since the last election, and there is every reason to look for gain, in view of the very obvious loss of some of the elements of Republican strength, and in view of the Democratic assistance to be given to the Home Rulers. The statement that the Home Rulers are "out of it" as much as the Prohibitionists is an absurdity.

Not a Good Faith Candidate

There is a disposition in some quarters to speak contemptuously of the Civic Federation, and to resent its entrance into politics as an intrusion if not an impertinence. The Civic Federation may make itself worthy of contempt, as any other body of men may, and if it does, its entrance into politics is an intrusion and an impertinence.

But the idea which underlies Civic Federations and their objects, as Civic Federations and kindred bodies have been developed in America, is not contemptible, nor is legitimate action emanating from that idea intrusion or impertinence.

The amount of influence, however, which each Civic Federation or similar organization, whether bearing that name or not, exercises, is almost invariably in proportion to the character and influence of its members, the disinterestedness of their motives, and the common sense of their actions. The Civic Federation in Chicago never had any influence in politics, because of ill-advised political effort early in its career; though it has had very widespread influence in other directions, particularly in social and economic matters. In Chicago, the wholesome influence in politics which the Civic Federation might have exercised but for unfortunate action at the start, has been exercised by the Municipal Voters' League.

The real object of a Civic Federation, so far as practical politics is concerned, is simply that of men, whose desire for good government is stronger than their mere party allegiance, banding themselves together to secure good government through the very practical method of getting the best men possible elected to office, and opposing all bad men and bad measures.

Only grafters and those who profit or expect to profit by bad government can oppose such objects. Of the means the Federation uses, of the practical wisdom of its judgments of men and measures, every honest voter has the right, and as an honest voter must exercise the right, of judging for himself. As, on the one hand he ought not to be stirred by prejudice against what the Civic Federation seeks to do, so, on the other hand, he ought not to be blinded by the mere Civic Federation label, and assume that everything that bears that label must be all right.

The Civic Federation in Honolulu seems to have neither a very large nor a very representative membership, nor can anything it has done in the present political situation be looked on as displaying any very commendable sagacity. Its readiness to help the Governor in antagonism to a particular candidate does not smack of high ideals, nor of its vaunted independence. That readiness is shown in its first efforts to get Rawlins to run, the man whom the Governor first picked out and assured that he could give the Civic Federation endorsement to. When Rawlins refused, the Civic Federation picked out High Sheriff Henry, who declared a little over a month ago that he would not be a candidate, who pledged his support to Brown, before Brown was nomin-

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nearer, and that is something to be devoutly thankful for.

No one can truthfully say that there seems a lack of interest in the county election.

The spring exhibit of the Kilohana Art League closes this evening. The League is one of those institutions which make for the betterment of the community. It seeks to cultivate a taste for art for art's sake. It seeks to stimulate effort in a direction away from the sordid affairs of life.

Mau has an auto car transportation line plying between Kahului and Wailuku.

This is the last day for filing nominations. At 5 o'clock it will be known how many of those who have been nominated or have talked of running independent, have made good by the deposit of their \$25 and their properly signed petition.

No doubt Enrique Daguhob and his thirty insurrecto followers in Samar are pacified. They are dead.

Will the Civic Federation publish the Senate Committee's report of High Sheriff Henry's connection with Twile as a part of its campaign literature?

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.
 Colorado Retorts.—How easy it would be to reprint some of those editorials of advice to Colorado from Chicago papers—and merely substitute the name Chicago for Colorado.—The Denver Republican.

Teacher: "If it took one man seven days to do a piece of work, how long would it take seven men to do the same work?" Tommy: "Seven weeks." "How so?" "The seven men would go on a strike."—The Washington Evening Star.

The international railway congress is holding its sessions in the same city where the national railway congress meets every winter.—Detroit Free Press.

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